I would express my sincere appreciation to Koji Abe, Nader Antonios, Hakan Ay, Andrew Clifton, Bruce Coull, Seth Finklestein, Michael Forsting, Rainer Kollmar, James Torner, and Steven Warach for their valuable contributions to Stroke while they served on the Stroke editorial board. Pak H. Chan is retiring and will also leave the board after 23 years of service to the journal. I wish him well in his well-deserved retirement. I would also like to welcome our new editorial board members Cesar Borlongan, Bruce Campbell, Hugues Chabriat, Jesse Dawson, Stéphanie Debette, David Hasan, Han-Hwa Hu, Irene Katzan, Pooja Khatri, Julien Labreuche, David Liebeskind, Kevin Sheth, and Clemens Sommer. I and the other senior editors look forward to working with them.

I thank Elisabeth Tournier-Lasserve and James Meschia for their valuable service as section editors for the Genetics section, which is being discontinued. I welcome Steven Greenberg, who will take Philip Gorelick’s place as section coeditor for the Vascular Cognitive Impairment section, as Phil will move to the editorial board. Anthony Furlan will move from the editorial board and become a Consulting Editor. I would like to welcome Mayank Goyal and Michael Tymianski as section coeditors for Clinical and Research Innovations. Finally, I would like to welcome Argye Hillis the newest Associate Editor, who will begin her term in the fall. I would also thank the many reviewers who are not board members for their valuable help because it is their efforts along with those of our various board members that make the peer review process possible.

In an effort to reach out to the stroke nursing community, Stroke has initiated a new series of articles, State-of-the-Science Nursing Reviews under the able leadership of Wende N. Fedder, Janice L. Hinkle, Elaine T. Miller, and Sue Pugh. Stroke has also initiated a new section focused on clinical and research innovations that will present cutting edge novel ideas at an early stage in their development. In the near future, a series of statistical reviews for basic and clinical researchers will begin to provide researchers and clinicians with insights into the latest concepts of biostatistics relevant to their activities. These new online-only ventures along with the others initiated during the past year are predicated on the belief that Stroke should provide its readership with an array of material to enhance their knowledge and insights into many different areas that are relevant to clinical practice and research.

In 2013, Stroke received the largest number of submissions in its history, 3160, a 9% increase from 2012. The acceptance rate was 16.1%, and the time to both print and online publication 80.1 and 44.3 days, respectively, was the shortest in the journal’s history. We are trying to perform the initial reviews of submitted manuscripts as expeditiously as possible, and this endeavor is reflected in our time to first decision from manuscript submission, which averaged 18.7 days in 2013, an 11% decline from 2012. Authors who submit to Stroke should be aware that we refer well-done manuscripts that are just below the high threshold for acceptance by Stroke to the Journal of the American Heart Association (JAHA), a relatively new online-only American Heart Association journal, for their consideration. I would encourage authors to strongly consider publishing in JAHA, if their manuscript is accepted by this increasingly important journal. More stroke articles appearing in JAHA will make this journal increasingly read by and relevant to the stroke community.

In conclusion, it has been an exciting and innovative past 12 months for Stroke with many new features. I look forward to continuing innovation and expansion as we move into 2015 and beyond during my second term as Editor-in-Chief of Stroke.
Editor's Correspondence
Marc Fisher

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